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GEORGE F. HENSHALLMANAGER

THURSDAYMARCH 4, 1909

TAFT AND HAWAII.

William Howard Taft, who today became the 27th President of the United States, is commonly referred to as being, more than any other man who ever took the position, a man trained for the presidency. Since he graduated from Yale, his career has been simply a succession of experience in public affairs such as might be ideally mapped out for one who was destined to occupy the White House. There is something of an impression that President Taft is not very friendly to Hawaii, perhaps because of his known strong personal interest in the Philippines, of which he was the first American governor and in which he carried out with intense devotion to republicanism, the American ideal of leading the Filipino as fast as possible to self-government. Taft planned for a Philippine legislature and he kept a promise to travel all the way from Washington to Manila to open its first session. His general policy indicates a devotion as strong as that of Lincoln himself, to the ideals of republicanism, using the term in its broad and not its partisan sense. This will mark his attitude towards Hawaii as towards the Philippines. A greater mistake could hardly be made, as far as Hawaii's winning the good-will of Taft is concerned, than to have the impression created that there is among the industrial leaders of this community a wish to disfranchise most of the people, to have government here by commission appointed in Washington, which Taft is trying to get rid of as applied in the Philippines, or to adopt an oligarchical scheme of government by the "qualified majority."

A FEW UP-TO-DATE FIGURES

Figures taken from the last census—which, though not up to date, answer the purpose of comparison—show that Utah, at that time, spent \$514,500 per year for its government exclusive of \$300,000 for schools, the population being 276,565; that Nebraska's government cost per year \$1,396,250, the population being 1,068,000; that the annual cost of running the Territory of New Mexico, with a population of 195,310, was \$321,317. Does not this tabulation bear out all this paper has said about the extravagance of the Hawaiian law-makers? —Advertiser.

Let us look at a few real figures. Suppose we take the World Almanac, or any other reliable statistician, for the present year,—not the last census" of ten years ago. The statement above quoted is that "Utah spent \$514,000 per year for its government" exclusive of schools. In the State of Utah is Salt Lake City. This little community of 100,000 people has a tax rate of \$1.30 on a 70 per cent valuation, and a public debt,—the city alone,—of \$3,798,000, while the State of Utah has a public debt of \$22.81 per capita and the state tax is \$5.00 on a 60 per cent valuation. Suppose we look at the other state mentioned. "Nebraska's government cost \$1,396,250." Nebraska has a tax rate of \$6.25, 20 per cent valuation. Its big city, Omaha, with a population of 145,000, has a public debt of \$5,670,000! Its tax rate is \$5.73, 20 per cent valuation. Suppose we take the nation at large. The United States public debt in 1908 was \$10,76 per capita!

If any more figures are desired, we can furnish columns of them. The much admired Des Moines has a tax rate of \$8.20 on a 25 per cent valuation! It must be borne in mind furthermore that Omaha is but one of many cities in Nebraska. There are NINETY SEPARATE COUNTY GOVERNMENTS in the State of Nebraska and twenty-seven in Utah, and in each of these counties are separate municipal corporations! In the light of these figures isn't it laughable sophistry to say that "Nebraska's government cost \$1,396,250," because that is all the state organization spent? The municipalities of Nebraska have debts of over \$20,000,000 aside from the state debt! But surely the fake figures do not need further exposing.

It may be added that the reason the state organizations of Utah and Nebraska cost so little, in common with others, is simply that they leave things to the counties and do not try to maintain Territorial departments duplicating county administration. That is all.

The way the "good business house" would run the Territory cheaper'n dirt may have a clue in the experience of a respectable young American who came here under the lure of magazine writings about Hawaii. He advertised in the morning paper for a job as assistant in an office, asking only for enough to live on and offering local references. No answer was received. Then he inserted a decoy advertisement purporting to be from a young Japanese with common school education wanting an engagement in an office where he might learn the details of office work. "The result of this," he says in relating his case, "was three answers from large firms here who, you would imagine, would show a preference for white Americans."

THE SENATE

(Continued from Page One.)

Session Laws of 1905, be not passed, for the following reasons:

(1) The present liquor law has worked well in most sections, causing a marked decrease in drunkenness. It has been complimented highly by many prominent visitors to the Territory. It should have a fair show to prove itself by being left unamended for another term.

(2) The proposed law takes from the Commissioners their discretion in issuing licenses, making it mandatory that the license issue if the consent of adjacent property holders has been obtained. This revives the similar feature of the law of 1905 to which great objection was made. The discretion

of the Commissioners is the most valuable feature of the present law and should not be eliminated.

(3) The bill proposes to reduce the amount of the license fee. This should not be done. An ample number of licensees have paid the present fees and there is no call to reduce our revenues.

(4) The bill provides for an appeal from all decisions of the board by the saloon keeper under bonds. This would enable a skillful lawyer to delay the hearing of the case by interposing technicalities so that the entire term of the license would elapse before final determination, thus defeating the law. The matter should be decided at once in order to protect the rights of the citizens.

(5) The bill allows the sale of liquor in restaurants without meals. This opens the door to any saloon to

sell liquor after hours, Sundays and election day by simply hiring a cook and running a restaurant on the same premises. The Commissioners of Oahu have practically decided that the present law did not allow liquor to be sold by restaurants except at and with meals.

(6) Pending an appeal the bill allows the applicant to go ahead operating his saloon until the appeal is decided. This would render the whole matter a farce. He would only be out his lawyer's fee in case the appeal went against him, as the case could be prolonged by continuances, etc., as above stated.

(7) The Republican party platform declared for the course that the present liquor law should not be amended at this session. A majority of both houses were elected under that platform.

(8) The bill if it becomes a law will greatly increase saloons and drunkenness and consequently misery and distress of women and children.

(9) The law as framed drops out the only local option feature of the present law and is a step backward. Forty out of forty-six states have now local option laws or prohibition. To eliminate this feature is a direct attack on the rights of the majority.

(10) The proposed law makes all meetings of the board public. This is hard on applicants whose characters are in question. Privacy in consultation is often desirable.

(11) Under the law as proposed no saloon can be suspended, no matter how much it disregard the law. An appeal lies from suspension also and under it justice can be defeated and the saloon go right on.

Respectfully submitted,
C. H. DICKEY, Chairman.
DOREMUS SCUDDER,
W. R. CASTLE.

Committee on Legislation, Civic Federation.

POI PICTURES.

Coelho presented the following report of select committee:

"Your select committee to whom was referred House concurrent resolution No. 10 relating to the 'Bonnie Poi Beating Films,' beg leave to report, that we have met Mr. Bonine and he informed us that he had already caused the objectionable film to be discarded and destroyed, which he did at the time he received the first intimation of any one being hurt by its exhibition and before the resolution was received in the Senate. Mr. Bonine expressed his sincere regret for being the cause of innocently creating such adverse feeling to what he had regarded as a means of illustrating in some graphic manner and with a humorous tend, a scene which might depict old time custom which is almost a thing of the past.

"Your committee feel that the action of the House was justifiable in promptly expressing their feeling as to what they seemed very objectionable; but, as the same is now beyond any future use, the committee therefore recommend the said concurrent resolution of the House be tabled.

"W. J. COELHO,
"S. E. KALAMA,
"PALMER P. WOODS."

ORDER OF THE DAY.

Senate bill to provide for service of process on corporations passed third reading.

House bill relating to inheritances from illegitimate persons came up for third reading.

Moore asked how proof could be made that an illegitimate person had brothers and sisters.

President Smith explained the possibility in question, adding that the chairman of the Judiciary Committee had fully explained the bill on second reading.

The bill passed.
Bills on second reading were referred as follows:

House bill to protect purchasers of real estate from fraudulent conveyances. Judiciary.

House bill to provide for the family of a deceased person pending the administration of his estate. Judiciary.

House bill to amend Honolulu Municipal Act, relating to tenements, etc. Health.

House bill to repeal section 1018 Revised Laws relating to certificates of vaccination. Health.

House bill to repeal the law of 1905 as amended in 1907 relating to certificates of Hawaiian birth. Judiciary.

House bill amending the law relating to charters of incorporation. Judiciary.

House bill to amend the law of 1905 relating to bonds of public officers. Judiciary.

Senate bill to amend the liquor law of 1907, relating to bonds. Ways and Means.

Senate bill to provide a specific tax of tenants an acre on land was first referred to the Select Committee on Taxation.

Baker called it back with the opinion that it must go to the Judiciary Committee as its legality might be doubted. Fairchild seconded this view and the bill went to Judiciary.

Senate bill changing judicial circuits. Judiciary.

COTTON EXEMPTION.

House amendment to Senate bill

THE HOUSE

(Continued from Page One.)

can be shown the Mayor's men did any work."

Kaleopu moved to table the amendment. It was tabled.

"These men whom this bill would pay, should be paid out of the bonds of the Supervisors," said Kamahā. "There are ten men in this House who were in the Legislature when the Municipal bill was passed and they know all about the intent of the law. This Legislature should not pay these men appointed by the Supervisors; their pay should be taken out of the bonds of the men who appointed. I move the bill be indefinitely postponed and the responsibility be put on the Supervisors where it belongs."

VIOLATED THE LAW.

Like declared that the Supervisors deliberately violated the statute, the intent of which was that the Mayor should make the appointments; and we find the Supreme Court decided that the mayor has the power to make these appointments of heads of City and County wards. Now, we find the Supervisors, defeated in their scheme to get all the appointments to themselves, coming to the Legislature for relief, when, according to law, as I believe, the employers are themselves responsible to the people on their bonds. The men who were employed and who want their pay have a legal remedy; they can sue on the bonds of the men who employed them.

POLITICAL FIGHT.

Kaniho favored Kamahā's motion to indefinitely postpone the Kaleopu bill. The reason of the bill was the fight between Mayor and Supervisors and the consequent necessity of settling how employees illegally employed were to get their money. It was all a political factional fight, said Kaniho. Why not seek remedy on the bonds of the men who erroneously employed these laborers now crying for their wages? If the bonds were no good, why were they required. If they were good, why were they not security for laborers' pay when the men bonded, illegally employed men they knew not how they were going to pay. Kaniho was sorry for some of these people, but why didn't the people vote a straight ticket and elect all of one political party, so there would not be this unprofitable squabbling between county officers.

FAMILIES SUFFERING.

Kaleopu declared that he had no political reason for the introduction of the bill, but because families were suffering in that laborers had been unable to get their money, or were forced to heavily discount their warrants. The mayor had not all to say and he was stubborn and would not do anything reasonable. He called on members from the other islands to in this case help out Oahu, even as Oahu in the last session helped out Hawaii in the payment of police officers over whose appointments there was hot dispute.

Sheldon declared that the City and County of Honolulu had benefited by the work done by the men who now sought to be paid and therefore it was up to the City and County to pay them.

The bill passed, finally, after failure to get in another proposed amendment, by a vote of 25 to 5, the five being Furtado, Kaniho, Kaniho, Kealawa and Like, four Democrats and one Home Ruler.

THE AWA INDUSTRY.

Kaleopu introduced a bill "relating to growers of awa."

"Every grower of awa is prohibited from selling or furnishing awa to any person who has no license to sell awa." Violation is made a misdemeanor with a fine minimum of \$25 and \$100 maximum or imprisonment of not more than two months.

AIR TO STOP CARS.

Correa put in a bill to provide for air-brakes on street cars; read by title.

IN HONOR OF TAFT.

Representative G. F. Afonso, First District, entered the following resolution which was adopted: "That when it does adjourn for the day the House do so in honor of the inauguration of His Excellency, William H. Taft, as President."

JUDICIARY REPORTS.

Recommending passage of Makekau's

H. B. 39, relating to deputy sheriffs. Advising to table the resolution of Ruel Kinney who wanted a bill drafted prohibiting the selling of fish and meat openly in the fishmarket of the Territory, the Judiciary committee recommending that the Board of Health has authority to make regulations in such regard.

In regard to Makekau's petition for a polling place at Kawaihā, this committee states that the power to create polling places is lodged with the governor and therefore the petition should have been addressed to the Executive.

ONE JOB ENOUGH.

Judiciary committee recommends passage of Makekau's joint resolution providing that no officer or employee of the Territory, County or Municipality shall draw more than one salary.

TO SPLIT HAWAII.

Special committee composed of members from the first and second districts to whom was referred H. B. 6, a measure to make two Senatorial districts of Hawaii Island, Afonso's bill, recommends passage thereof.

Ruel Kinney entered a resolution for

\$500 for a jailor's cottage at Hānalei, Koolaula, Oahu.

MAKEKAU BILL HAD.

Judiciary committee, Douthett, chairman, recommends tabling Makekau's House Bill 66, saying that the object of the bill is to constitute district magistrates and deputy sheriffs together with some other disinterested person a board of equalization to determine tax assessments. If the bill becomes law, it would give vast power and in many instances these officers would not be competent to pass on such revenue matters. The committee feels sure that such powers should not be conferred upon such officers.

FOREIGNERS, \$100.

Castro's foreign corporation bill, H. B. 13 is reported by Judiciary committee with proposed amendment of \$100 for fee from a foreign corporation, the present fee of \$25 being too small and the fee proposed in the bill being too large.

The military committee recommends

(Continued on Page Five.)

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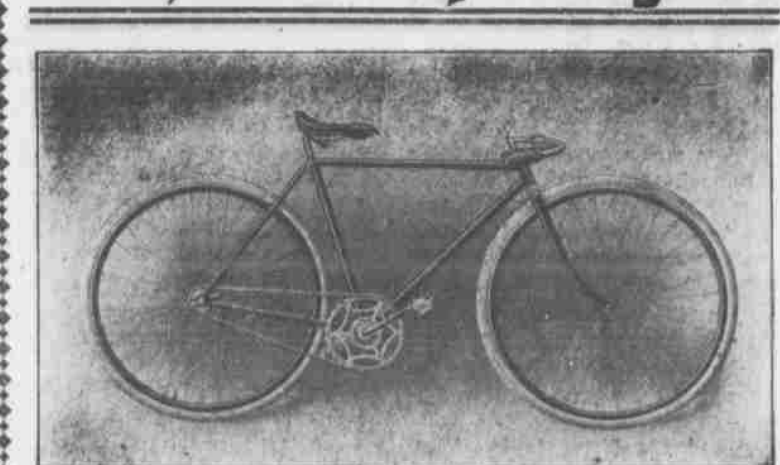
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